AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-7, 10-18 and 24-27 without prejudice.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) An apparatus for computerized trading comprising:

software encoded on a computer-readable medium and capable of execution by a computer, said software including:

- a first[[,]] algorithm plug-in for implementing a trading strategy,
- a second[[,]] market plug-in for implementing a trading strategy,
- an engine for providing services to said first and second plug-ins, whereby said first and second plug-ins are implemented in said engine in order to execute a trade,
- a third algorithm plug-in,
- a fourth market plug-in,

whereby either of said third or fourth plug-ins may be substituted for either of said first plug-in or second plug-in respectively, in said engine, in order to execute a trade;

wherein said second market plug-in implements a first limit on trading volume applicable in a first market and said fourth market plug-in implements a second limit on trading volume applicable in a second market, the second limit on trading volume being different from the first limit on trading volume.

9. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said first and third algorithm plug-ins implement trading strategies selected from a group ~~comprising~~ consisting of:

- Volume Weighted Average Price;
- Ratio;

- Gamma Hedge;
- Aggressive Short Sell;
- Iceberg;
- Auto Trader;
- CB Delta Hedge;
- Stop Loss; and
- Short Sell.

10-18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) A method for computerized trading comprising:

- providing a first[[,]] algorithm plug-in for implementing a trading strategy,
- providing a second[[,]] market plug-in for implementing a trading strategy,
- providing an engine for providing services to either of said first or second plug-ins,
- implementing said first and second plug-ins in said engine,
- providing a third algorithm plug-in,
- providing a fourth market plug-in, and
- substituting either of said third or fourth plug-ins for either of said first plug-in or said second plug-in respectively, in said engine, in order to execute a trade;

wherein said second market plug-in implements a first limit on trading volume applicable in a first market and said fourth market plug-in implements a second limit on trading volume applicable in a second market, the second limit on trading volume being different from the first limit on trading volume.

20. (currently amended) A method as in claim 19, wherein the step of providing a first algorithm plug-in for implementing a trading strategy, further comprise providing a first algorithm plug-in selected from a group ~~comprising~~ consisting of:

- Volume Weighted Average Price;
- Ratio;
- Gamma Hedge;
- Aggressive Short Sell;

- Iceberg;
- Auto Trader;
- CB Delta Hedge;
- Stop Loss; and
- Short Sell.

21. (currently amended) A method as in claim 19, wherein the step of providing a third algorithm plug-in for implementing a trading strategy, further comprise providing a third algorithm plug-in selected from a group ~~comprising~~ consisting of:
- Volume Weighted Average Price;
- Ratio;
- Gamma Hedge;
- Aggressive Short Sell;
- Iceberg;
- Auto Trader;
- CB Delta Hedge;
- Stop Loss; and
- Short Sell.

22. (original) The method of claim 19, further comprising the step of initiating a recovery mechanism in the event of system failure.

23. (currently amended) An article for executing computerized trading comprising:
- a computer-readable signal bearing medium;
software encoded on said computer-readable signal bearing medium, said software including:
- ~~means in the medium for providing~~ a first plug-in for implementing a trading strategy,
- ~~means in the medium for providing~~ a second plug-in for implementing a trading strategy,

- ~~means in the medium for providing~~ an engine for providing services to either of said first or second plug-in, whereby said first plug-in is implemented in said engine in order to execute a trade;

- a third plug-in;

- a fourth plug-in;

whereby either of said third or fourth plug-ins may be substituted for either of said first plug-in or second plug-in respectively, in said engine, in order to execute a trade;

wherein said second plug-in implements a first limit on trading volume applicable in a first market and said fourth plug-in implements a second limit on trading volume applicable in a second market, the second limit on trading volume being different from the first limit on trading volume.

24-27. (canceled)

28. (New) A method for computerized trading, comprising:

providing a plurality of algorithm plug-ins, each of the algorithm plug-ins for implementing a respective trading strategy from a plurality of trading strategies, all of the trading strategies being different from each other;

providing a plurality of market plug-ins, each of the market plug-ins for implementing rules for a respective market from a plurality of markets, all of the markets being different from each other;

selecting one of the algorithm plug-ins;

selecting one of the market plug-ins;

configuring an engine with the selected one of the algorithm plug-ins and with the selected one of the market plug-ins, the engine being for providing to the selected one of the algorithm plug-ins access to market data and for sending orders on behalf of the selected one of the algorithm plug-ins and for receiving notification of executions of orders on behalf of the selected one of the algorithm plug-ins; and

using the configured engine to carry out trades in accordance with the trading strategy implemented by the selected one of the algorithm plug-ins and in accordance with market rules implemented by the selected one of the market plug-ins.

29. (New) A method as in claim 28, wherein a first one of said market plug-ins implements a first limit on trading volume and a second one of said market plug-ins implements a second limit on trading volume, the second limit being different from the first limit.

30. (New) A method as in claim 28, wherein the plurality of trading strategies implemented respectively by said algorithm plug-ins comprise at least two of the group of trading strategies consisting of: (a) a volume-weighted-average-price strategy; (b) a ratio strategy in which a first instrument is bought and a related instrument is sold in response to a certain ratio between respective prices of the first instrument and the related instrument; (c) a hedging strategy; (d) a short selling strategy; (e) a stop loss strategy; (f) an "iceberg" strategy in which a part that is less than all of an order is sent to market at any given time; and (g) an auto trader strategy to determine whether a trade is to be sent to market or filled from an account.

31. (New) A method as in claim 30, wherein the plurality of trading strategies implemented respectively by said algorithm plug-ins comprise at least three of the group of trading strategies consisting of: (a) a volume-weighted-average-price strategy; (b) a ratio strategy in which a first instrument is bought and a related instrument is sold in response to a certain ratio between respective prices of the first instrument and the related instrument; (c) a hedging strategy; (d) a short selling strategy; (e) a stop loss strategy; (f) an "iceberg" strategy in which a part that is less than all of an order is sent to market at any given time; and (g) an auto trader strategy to determine whether a trade is to be sent to market or filled from an account.

32. (New) A method as in claim 31, wherein the plurality of trading strategies implemented respectively by said algorithm plug-ins comprise at least four of the group of trading strategies consisting of: (a) a volume-weighted-average-price strategy; (b) a ratio strategy in which a first instrument is bought and a related instrument is sold in response to a certain ratio between respective prices of the first instrument and the related instrument; (c) a hedging strategy; (d) a short selling strategy; (e) a stop loss strategy; (f) an "iceberg" strategy in which a part that is less than all of an order is sent to market at any given time; and (g) an auto trader strategy to determine whether a trade is to be sent to market or filled from an account.

33. (New) A method as in claim 28, further comprising:

parameterizing the selected one of the algorithm plug-ins to execute at least one trade.

34. (New) A method as in claim 28, wherein the selecting of one of the algorithm plug-ins includes selecting a selection from a pull-down menu.

35. (New) An apparatus for computerized trading comprising:

software encoded on a computer-readable medium and capable of execution by a computer, said software including:

a plurality of algorithm plug-ins, each of the algorithm plug-ins for implementing a respective trading strategy from a plurality of trading strategies, all of the trading strategies being different from each other;

a plurality of market plug-ins, each of the market plug-ins for implementing rules for a respective market from a plurality of markets, all of the markets being different from each other;

an engine configured with a selected one of the algorithm plug-ins and with a selected one of the market plug-ins, the engine being for:

providing to the selected one of the algorithm plug-ins access to market data;

sending orders on behalf of the selected one of the algorithm plug-ins;

receiving notification of executions of orders on behalf of the selected one of the algorithm plug-ins; and

carrying out trades in accordance with the trading strategy implemented by the selected one of the algorithm plug-ins and in accordance with market rules implemented by the selected one of the market plug-ins.

36. (New) An apparatus as in claim 35, wherein a first one of said market plug-ins implements a first limit on trading volume and a second one of said market plug-ins implements a second limit on trading volume, the second limit being different from the first limit.

37. (New) An apparatus as in claim 35, wherein the plurality of trading strategies implemented respectively by said algorithm plug-ins comprise at least two of the group of trading strategies consisting of: (a) a volume-weighted-average-price strategy; (b) a ratio strategy in which a first instrument is bought and a related instrument is sold in response to a certain ratio between respective prices of the first instrument and the related instrument; (c) a hedging strategy; (d) a short selling strategy; (e) a stop loss strategy; (f) an "iceberg" strategy in which a part that is less than all of an order is sent to market at any given time; and (g) an auto trader strategy to determine whether a trade is to be sent to market or filled from an account.

38. (New) An apparatus as in claim 37, wherein the plurality of trading strategies implemented respectively by said algorithm plug-ins comprise at least three of the group of trading strategies consisting of: (a) a volume-weighted-average-price strategy; (b) a ratio strategy in which a first instrument is bought and a related instrument is sold in response to a certain ratio between respective prices of the first instrument and the related instrument; (c) a hedging strategy; (d) a short selling strategy; (e) a stop loss strategy; (f) an "iceberg" strategy in

which a part that is less than all of an order is sent to market at any given time; and (g) an auto trader strategy to determine whether a trade is to be sent to market or filled from an account.

39. (New) An apparatus as in claim 38, wherein the plurality of trading strategies implemented respectively by said algorithm plug-ins comprise at least four of the group of trading strategies consisting of: (a) a volume-weighted-average-price strategy; (b) a ratio strategy in which a first instrument is bought and a related instrument is sold in response to a certain ratio between respective prices of the first instrument and the related instrument; (c) a hedging strategy; (d) a short selling strategy; (e) a stop loss strategy; (f) an "iceberg" strategy in which a part that is less than all of an order is sent to market at any given time; and (g) an auto trader strategy to determine whether a trade is to be sent to market or filled from an account.